

9-30-74
Run 2100

Nebraska Weekly Weather & Crop Report



Statistical Reporting Service, USDA
and U S Department of Commerce
Environmental Science Services Admin
National Weather Service

Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Agricultural Extension Service
of Nebr College of Agriculture

Release 9/30/74

Week Ending 9/30/74

WEATHER

Warm days and cool nights prevailed most of the period except for below normal temperatures the last two days.

Rainfall was below normal with little or no precipitation reported.

CROPS

Warm, dry weather conditions over the State this past week hurried the maturing process of the fall crops. Farmers were chopping and ensiling milo and corn; harvesting soybeans, milo, and corn for grain; or preparing for harvest. During the survey period (September 21-27), the entire week was suitable for fieldwork. All areas of the State report the need for moisture for adequate wheat germination and growth. Topsoil moisture supplies declined and were short in 89% of the counties reporting. Subsoil moisture also declined and were short in 96% of the counties.

Corn harvest for grain has begun in most areas of the State. Irrigated corn is running mostly 25-30% moisture. Harvest of dryland corn for silage is continuing statewide; some areas are nearing completion. High moisture corn is also being harvested and stored. Of both non-irrigated and irrigated corn, nearly 80% of the crop is mature; normal is 90% by this time. Over 5% of this corn is now harvested, slightly ahead of normal. Harvest ranges up to 30% in the Panhandle and is well along in many southwestern counties.

Sorghum harvest is underway throughout the State. Reports indicate that the frost not only decreased yield but also caused the weight to be light. Some frosted and drought damaged sorghum is being ensiled or stacked. Some farmers are pulling stover wagons behind the combine to harvest more forage. Nearly 95% of the crop has turned to date; normal is 100%. Close to 60% is ripe now, with normal at 75%. Over 10% of the crop has been harvested to date; normally only 5% has been harvested.

CROPS (Cont.)

Soybean harvest has begun in some areas of the State. Reports show that moisture is 8-11% with yields between 20-30 bushels per acre. Leaves have turned later than normal with 5% remaining to turn. Nearly 70% have shed their leaves to date compared to a normal of 95%. Nearly 55% of the crop is mature, 66% is normal at this time. About 10% has been harvested to date, nearly 5% below normal. Several counties are nearly 1/3 completed in south central Nebraska.

Wheat seeding is continuing statewide although moisture is needed to get the seed germinated and growing. Nearly 80% has been seeded now; normal is 88%. Some farmers are seeding in dry soil in hopes of moisture while others are waiting for moisture before seeding.

Alfalfa growth has slowed considerably in many areas; some won't be getting fourth cuttings. To date, about 55% of the fourth cutting is complete.

Dry edible bean harvest is nearing completion in western Nebraska. Yields have been good and quality excellent. A few bean fields have received light frost damage.

Sugar beet condition is reported to be excellent. Harvest will begin this week.

LIVESTOCK

Range and pasture feed supplies declined and are short in 90% of the counties reporting. Hay and silage are being used to supplement cattle on ranges and pastures. In some cases, cattle are being put into corn and milo stubble fields or even dryland non-harvested fields.

Underscored
Reports
Unofficial

Station		Temperature				Precipitation
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches <u>1/</u>
		Max	Min			
NW	Chadron	92	30	56	--	0
	Scottsbluff	88	29	55	-3	T
	Sidney	--	--	--	--	--
NC	Burwell	96	32	60	--	0
	Valentine	94	30	57	-1	0
NE	Norfolk	93	33	60	0	0
	Sioux City	88	34	61	+1	0
CEN	Grand Island	93	41	62	+1	0
EC	Lincoln	90	36	62	0	0
	Omaha	89	31	61	-2	T
SW	Imperial	91	34	59	--	0
	North Platte	93	28	57	-2	0

Precipitation, April 1 - September 27, 1974

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Total since April 1	8.20	11.20	16.00	13.40	14.70	11.30	11.80	13.70
Normal since April 1	12.56	15.27	18.20	16.69	19.65	14.36	16.86	21.56

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